



What You Need to Take

IDENTIFICATION

- ☐ Driver's License
- ☐ Birth Certificate
- ☐ Children's Birth Certificates
- ☐ Social Security Cards

FINANCIAL

- ☐ Money and/or credit cards (in your name)
- ☐ Checking and/or savings account books

LEGAL PAPERS

- ☐ Protective Order
- ☐ Lease, rental agreement, house deed
- ☐ Car registration and insurance papers
- ☐ Health and life insurance papers
- ☐ Medical records for you and children
- ☐ School records
- ☐ Work permits/Green Card/Visa
- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Divorce and custody papers
- ☐ Marriage license

OTHER

- ☐ Medications
- ☐ House and car keys
- ☐ Valuable jewelry
- ☐ Address book
- ☐ Pictures and sentimental items
- ☐ Change of clothes for you and your children



Helpful Numbers

Police Emergency 911

Crime Victims' Comp
800-983-9933

National Domestic Violence Hotline
800-799-7233
800-787-3224 (TTY)

Women's Advocacy Project -
Family Violence Hotline
800-374-HOPE (4673)

Texas Department of Human Services
Abuse Hotline
800-252-5400

Telephone Numbers in Your Area

Police Department

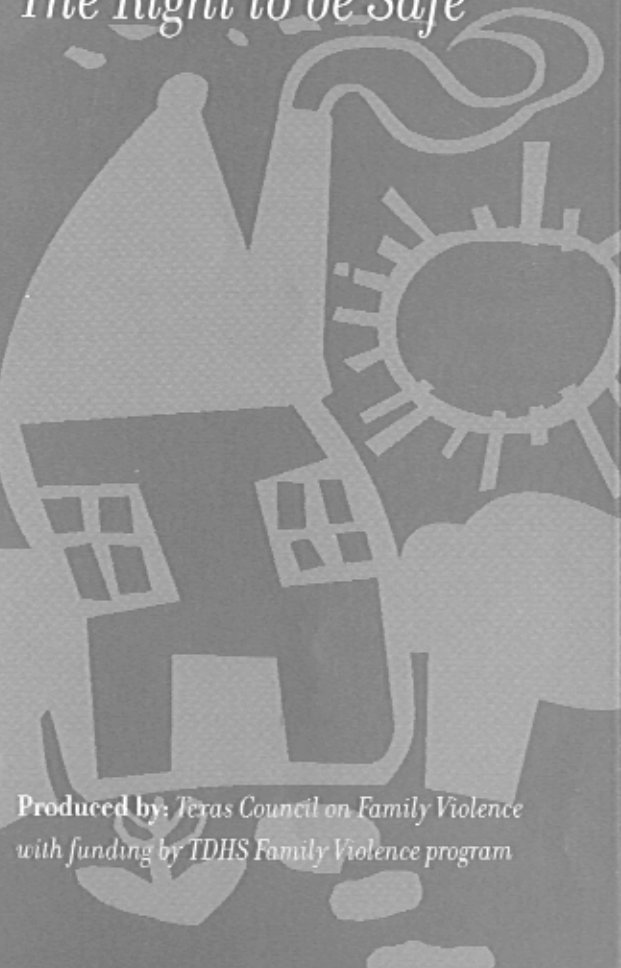
Prosecutor's Office

Battered Women's Shelter Hotline

Hospital

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE A Personal Safety Plan

The Right to be Safe



Produced by: Texas Council on Family Violence
with funding by TDHS Family Violence program



The Office of the Attorney
General, Crime Victims'
Compensation Division

800-983-9933

Safety Plan...



During an Explosive Incident

- A. If there is an argument, try to be in a place that has an exit and not in a bathroom, kitchen, or room that may contain weapons.
- B. Practice getting out of your home safely. Identify which doors, windows, elevator, or stairwell to use.
- C. Pack a bag and have it ready at a friend's or relative's house.
- D. Identify one or more neighbors you can tell about the violence and ask them if they can call the police if they hear a disturbance coming from your home.
- E. Devise a code word to use with your children, family, friends and neighbors when you need the police.
- F. Decide and plan where you will go if you ever have to leave home.
- G. Use your instincts and judgment. In a dangerous situation, give the abuser what he wants to calm him down.

REMEMBER: *You Do Not Deserve to be Hit or Threatened*



When Preparing to Leave

- A. Open a checking account or savings account in your own name.
- B. Leave money, an extra set of keys, copies of important documents, and extra clothes and medicines in a safe place or with someone you trust.
- C. Get your own post office box.
- D. Find a safe place where you and your children can go or a person who can lend you money.
- E. Always keep the shelter phone number and some change or a calling card on you for emergency phone calls.
- F. If you have pets, make arrangements for them to be cared for in a safe place.

REMEMBER: *Leaving Your Batterer is the Most Dangerous Time*



With a Protective Order

- A. If you or your children have been threatened or assaulted, you can request a Protective Order from the Prosecutor's Office.
- B. Always keep your Protective Order with you.
- C. Call the police if your partner violates the Protective Order.
- D. Inform family members, friends, and neighbors that you have a Protective Order in effect.
- E. Think of alternative ways to keep safe if the police do not respond immediately.



In Your Own Residence

- A. If you stay in your home, lock your windows and change locks on your doors.
- B. Develop a safety plan with your children for when you are not with them.
- C. Inform your child's school, day care, etc., about who has permission to pick up your child.
- D. Inform your neighbors and the landlord that your partner no longer lives with you, and that they should call the police if they see him/her near your home.
- E. Never call the abuser from your home; he may find out where you live. Never tell the abuser where you live.
- F. Request an unlisted/unpublished number from the telephone company.



On the Job and in Public

- A. Decide who at work you will inform of your situation. Include the office building security (if possible, provide them with a picture of your batterer).
- B. When at work, if possible, have someone screen your telephone calls.
- C. Have someone escort you to and from your car, bus, or train.
- D. If at all possible, use a variety of routes to come and go from home.